

PREFACE

This brochure has been prepared to provide a few brief facts regarding the National Communications System and its organizational arrangements.

FACTS ABOUT THE  
NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (NCS)

ESTABLISHMENT

On 21 August 1963, the President of the United States directed the establishment of a National Communications System (NCS) to provide better communications support to critical functions of government. At the same time, the President designated the Director of Telecommunications Management (DTM) in the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) to advise him with respect to communications requirements and plans for the NCS. On 1 July 1970, the DTM was replaced by the Office of Telecommunications Policy (OTP), a Presidential level office independent of the OEP. The OTP assumed responsibility for policy direction of the development and operation of the NCS. To obtain the benefits of unified technical planning and operations, a single Executive Agent for the NCS was necessary. The President, in the White House Memorandum of 21 August 1963, designated the Secretary of Defense to serve in that capacity.

CONCEPT OF NCS

The NCS is comprised primarily of the major telecommunications assets of specified Federal Agencies, including the Department of State, Department of Defense, the Federal Aviation Administration, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. In addition, the system includes certain assets of the Department of the Interior, Department of Commerce, Atomic Energy Commission, Federal Communications Commission, and the U. S. Information Agency. Through this system, the day-to-day business of government is carried out, our defense posture is maintained and the continuity of government is supported in wartime. The mission accomplishment of all Executive Branch agencies is heavily dependent upon the NCS. *plus CIA*

The current NCS concept envisaged is not that of a separate telecommunications system, but a blending of existing facilities. The National Communications System is defined as that telecommunications system which results from joining together technically and operationally the separate telecommunications systems of the several Executive Branch Departments and Agencies which have a significant capability for providing telecommunications.

The facilities continue to be operated and funded by their respective parent agencies to serve agency needs and such needs of other agencies as have been accepted for fulfillment pursuant to cross-service or mutual support agreements. The objective is to insure that the important Federal telecommunications resources are improved progressively and so interlinked that the aggregate will function as if it were a coherent single system, both for the effective satisfaction of the most critical needs in any possible emergency situation, and for the effective and economical satisfaction of day-to-day telecommunications needs of the Federal Government.

The NCS presently has a plant value of about \$4.0 billion with an annual operating budget of about \$700 million. It is government-wide and world-wide in scope starting with the President of the United States and extending out to serve Federal activities located in about 118 different countries. At last count, it consisted of more than 56,000,000 channel miles of circuitry. Over 40,000 government personnel are involved in the management and operation of the system.

#### MANAGERIAL STRUCTURE

The managerial structure of the NCS centers on the Executive Office of the President. Policy direction for the development of the NCS stems directly from the Executive Office of the President. The Office of Telecommunications Policy (OTP) is responsible for determining the requirements of the Presidency and the priority for fulfillment of requirements. The Director, Office of Telecommunications Policy (DTP) advises regarding communications requirements to be supplied through the NCS and provides guidance with respect to the design, operation, and use of the system. The Executive Agent is responsible for insuring that unified operations and technical planning are conducted to afford a highly effective and responsive system to meet the needs of the Federal Government. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications) is the principal NCS advisor to the Secretary of Defense.

The Secretary of Defense has designated the Director of the Defense Communications Agency (DCA) to serve additionally as the Manager, National Communications System. The member agencies of the NCS play a predominant role in the formulation of telecommunications policy and solution of mutual problems by means of representation in NCS study groups, ad hoc committees and permanent committees formed by the Manager. Depending upon the nature of the task,

*Gen. Enak*

the Manager requests the Operating Agencies to provide personnel with the needed skills to serve on the working groups and committees along with members of the Manager's staff.

An NCS Management Advisory Group has been established which is comprised of the Manager, NCS, and the chief communicators of the major agencies involved in the NCS effort. The periodic meetings of this group provide the principal forum for exchanging views between the Manager and the key government communicators.

#### ROLE OF THE MANAGER, NCS

The Manager, NCS, has established an Office of the Manager, NCS, to carry out his NCS functions. It is located in the Navy Service Center, 8th and South Court-house Road, Arlington, Virginia, which also houses the Headquarters of the Defense Communications Agency. Because of this collocation, the Defense Communications Agency provides support to the Office of the Manager in certain NCS functional areas as well as administrative support.

The Manager, NCS, was delegated the major Executive Agent functions related to the establishment and operation of the NCS. These include functions in the areas of coordination, planning, design, standards, test, evaluation, and others. A chart depicting the relationship between the Manager, NCS, and the participating agencies is shown on page 5.

The Office of the Manager is a separate organizational entity and is not identifiable as an element of the Department of Defense organization. The Manager's staff includes personnel from its member agencies (State, DoD, FAA, GSA, NASA) who are concerned with coordinating actions among all elements of the government having an interest in the matter.

#### STATUS OF THE NCS

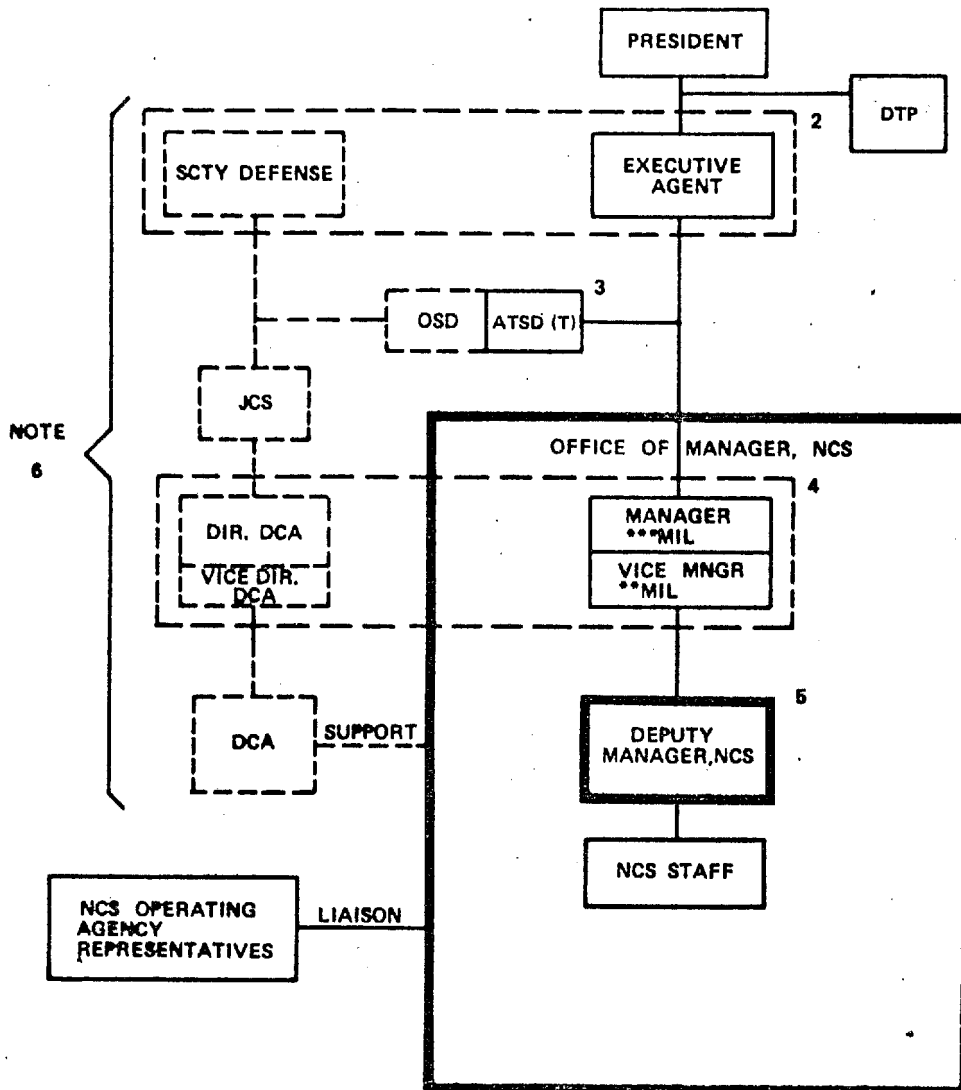
It has been specified that the objectives of the NCS are to be achieved through evolutionary development and the progressive linking together of the various component networks that comprise the system. Significant progress has been made in this regard, particularly in areas involving the development of uniform procedures, priorities, standards and arrangements to assure effective use of NCS assets in emergency situations.

In the near term, preparations for responding to emergencies receive the highest priority. These preparations include the development of an emergency organization, the preparation of contingency plans, standards and procedures, establishment of priorities for restoration, and testing of system effectiveness. There is also an extensive planning and concept development effort extending to the 1985 time frame.

Emphasis is also placed on planning actions where multi-agency coordination can be most effective to achieve economies or to aid compliance with national goals or policies. For example, plans to foster mutual support in the satellite communications field could result in economies and greater operational efficiency for those requirements which are authorized for assignment to government systems for satisfaction.

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## NCS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



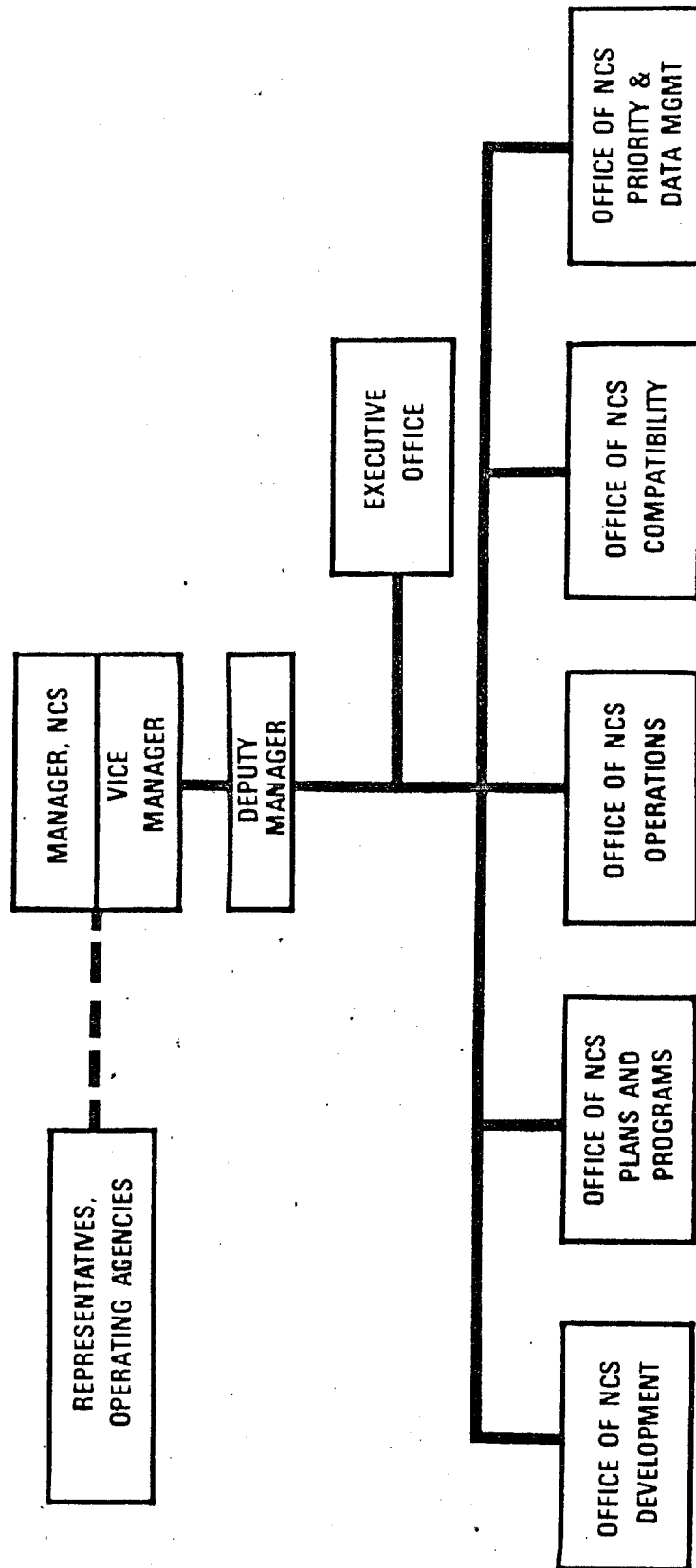
MAJOR	DEPT OF DEFENSE	GSA	FAA	NASA	DEPT OF STATE
	DEFENSE COMM SYSTEM	FEDERAL TELECOMM SYSTEM	AERONAUTICAL AND WEATHER NETWORKS	NASCOM NETWORKS	DIPLOMATIC TELECOMM SERVICE
NCS OPERATING COMPONENTS					
MINOR	USIA	FCC	AEC	DEPT OF INTERIOR	DEPT OF COMMERCE
	INTERNATIONAL BDCST SVC	EMERGENCY ACTION NOTIFICATION NET	EMERGENCY RADIO SADIE	INTER-ISLAND NETWORK	WEATHER NETWORKS

## NOTES:

1. DIRECTOR OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY. POLICY DIRECTION AND PRINCIPAL ADVISOR ON NCS MATTERS.
2. EXECUTIVE AGENT, NCS RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO SCTY DEFENSE BY PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM, 21 AUG 1963.
3. ASSISTANT TO THE SCTY DEFENSE FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS. PRINCIPAL ADVISOR TO THE EXECUTIVE AGENT.
4. MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO DIRECTOR DCA BY DOD DIRECTIVE 5100.41. VICE MANAGER ACTS FOR MANAGER IN HIS ABSENCE.
5. FIRST LINE-MANAGEMENT POSITION WHICH IS EXCLUSIVELY NCS.
6. SHOWS DUAL-HATTING OF SCTY DEF AND DIRECTOR DCA, PRESENCE OF JCS IN DCA CHAIN OF COMMAND AND DCA RESPONSIBILITIES TO SUPPORT NCS STAFF.

# OFFICE OF THE MANAGER NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

## ORGANIZATION



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